

## The Durham Woodworking Club – We Need a New Home!

Dec. 2022

The Durham Woodworking Club (DWC) has been based in Oshawa since 1987.

We are 115 members strong, and boast many highly skilled woodworkers, including winners of international competitions and successful woodworking retail vendors. Most recently, a past-president was awarded the distinguished “Queen’s Jubilee Award” for his leadership in the club. Our group thrives on the social interactions and skill-sharing interactions our club provides for us, both internally within the club and externally within the community. The DWC is registered as a Non-Profit Entity.

Our club has been very active in the city and region over the years, working with the following groups:

1. Boy Scouts, ongoing teaching and assisting in building wooden cars and trucks
2. Girl Guides, ongoing teaching and assisting in building picture frames
3. Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre – we have made (and continue to make) and donated over 500 wig stands for cancer patients
4. Seniors’ centers – we have made wooden craft projects for them to assemble and paint and made newspaper boxes for residents.
5. We Grow Food – we built and donated 5 large garden benches for community gardens
6. Nifty Fifties Ladies Group – we helped them build birdhouses
7. CLOCA – we built turtle basking platforms, nest protection boxes, and butterfly boxes
8. Pens For Peacekeepers and HealthCare Workers – we have handmade, and continue to make, many hundreds of wooden pens and have sent them to Canadian armed forces persons around the world and distributed them to frontline healthcare workers in Durham during COVID
9. Back Door Mission – we have built shelves, and continue to collect food/clothing for them weekly
10. Legion – we have built poppy boxes

We are a very community-minded group.

Our shop is currently located in the basement of Simcoe Street United Church, where we have been paying a small rental fee to the church for use of that space. In turn, we help out with Church-related functions as requested. The club maintains its own liability insurance and has passed regular fire inspections.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, not related to COVID, our fully equipped woodshop has not been allowed to operate for 4 months now, and the future viability of our current location is in doubt.

We are actively looking for a different location.

Ideally, the characteristics/qualities of the location include:

1,500 – 2,500 sq feet	Large entrance door
Ample power (200 amp service)	Wi-Fi available
Good ventilation (windows that can be opened)	Water/bathrooms on site
Adequate parking	Well-lit and generally “safe” area
Ground Floor space	Long term availability
	And.....low rent (!)

We would be most grateful if you can be of any assistance to us, including helping:

- Spread the word that we are looking for a new site for our woodworking shop
- Identify new potential locations within the greater Oshawa area
- Identify contacts who could assist us in our quest.

Reach us at: [president@duhamwoodworkingclub.com](mailto:president@duhamwoodworkingclub.com) or [vicepresident@durhamwoodworkingclub.com](mailto:vicepresident@durhamwoodworkingclub.com)

WEB address: <https://durhamwoodworkingclub.com/>

THANK YOU!